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## (54) Expandable well screen

(57) An expandable well screen (36) provides increased collapse, torsional and tensile strength. In an embodiment, the expandable well screen (36) includes a generally tubular base pipe (38) and an external filtering media (40). The well screen (36) is configured to have sufficient torsional and tensile strength for conveyance and positioning in a wellbore, while also having sufficient strength to prevent collapse when the screen (38) is radially expanded.

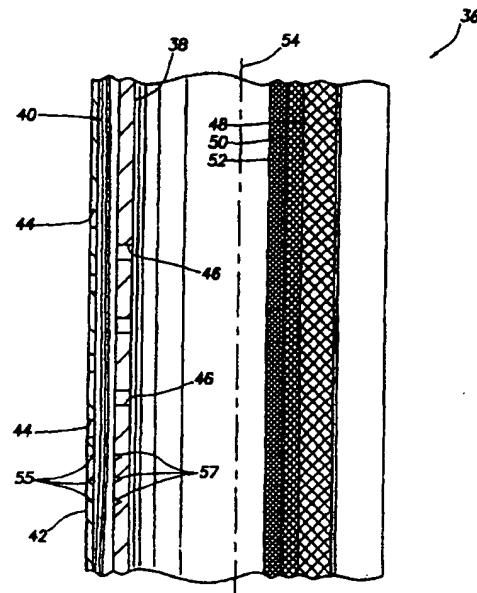


FIG.2



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## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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| <b>TECHNICAL FIELDS</b><br><small>(Int.Cl.)</small><br><b>E21B</b>   |  |   |   |
| <p>The present search report has been drawn up for all claims</p>  |  |   |   |
| Place of search  | Date of completion of the search   | Examiner  |   |
| THE HAGUE  | 19 April 2002  | Schouten, A   |   |
| CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS  |  |   |   |
| X: particularly relevant if taken alone<br>Y: particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category<br>A: technological background<br>O: non-written disclosure<br>P: intermediate document |  | T: theory or principle underlying the invention<br>E: earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date<br>D: document cited in the application<br>U: document cited for other reasons<br>G: member of the same patent family, corresponding document |   |
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